

To: Brooks, Karl[brooks.karl@epa.gov]; Thomas, Hattie[Thomas.Hattie@epa.gov]
From: Hague, Mark
Sent: Wed 10/23/2013 4:06:58 PM
Subject: RE: Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Karl

Looks good

Once Hattie polishing up thots on quick send to relevant Sr Staff.....with only a show stopper review?

Mark

From: Brooks, Karl
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 11:01 AM
To: Hague, Mark; Thomas, Hattie
Subject: FW: Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Thoughts about:

Iowa CAFO Modernization Agreement: substantial commitment by R7's leading animal agriculture state to modernize its system for permitting, evaluating, inspecting, enforcing CWA; produced new investments by Iowa in inspectors, training, outreach, compliance; EPA R7 CNSL/WWPD and HQ OECA teamed to obtain this agreement via negotiations; Iowa political leaders acknowledged EPA's important role in CWA implementation and praised Administrator's personal investment in obtaining positive outcome

Carter Carburetor: enforceable CERCLA order commits PRP to spend \$25MM over 4 years to clean up long-abandoned multi-block industrial property amidst EJ community in R7's largest city; celebrated with Mayor, Congressman, state legislators, faith leaders, community activists kick off; first phase of cleanup has removed asbestos and debris; with contamination cleanup and

demolition to follow on schedule; redeemed agency commitment to make Superfund program serve disproportionately burdened communities

Administrator at Iowa State Fair: highly positive visit and speech about EPA and agriculture; Administrator lunched with Governor, Ag Secretary, farm conservation leaders; substantial positive press coverage in both ag and conventional media that emphasized Administrator's fresh start with ag

Kansas Delegated RCRA Corrective Action Program: R7 speeded up delegation by innovative rulemaking; state welcomed authority to manage program; demonstrated R7 commitment to partnering with states; tangible positive benefits at Sunflower Army Ammo Plant (metro KC), where cleanup accelerating and regulatory delays resolving toward multi-million dollar repurposing of largest tract of unbuilt land in metro KC

Fulton, MO, WWTP permit: (possibly also Poplar Bluff, Kirksville); EPA worked productively with MDNR to resolve difficulty CWA permitting disputes; communities freed to issue multi millions of bonds for much-needed modernization of outdated WWTP infrastructure; 303(d) waters will be cleaner because of investments and innovative problem-solving

West Lake Landfill: order to PRPs to construct isolation trench from Bridgeton landfill smoldering event; preserve integrity of EPA Superfund remedy selection; allayed community and political concerns in R7's biggest city; furthered EPA's connections to various community groups through regular meetings, conferences, briefings of elected officials, media, community groups (CAG); strong working relationship with Mo AG

R7 Anti-Bullying Policy: Region establishes clear policy to preserve safe, professional, productive workplace; contributes to HPO goals; product of strong working relationship with AFGE, NTEU in R7, with spillover benefits in national union-management relations; furthers agency commitment to diversity

SPCC Flexibility Letter from OECA: R7 worked with OECA to generate letter from AA exercising administrative discretion to avoid penalizing non-compliant farms/ranches; earned substantial positive media and congressional response, likewise from ag stakeholders; R7 brought issue to HQ attention, outlined flexibility approach, amplified throughout R7, with

national benefits for agency relations with ag

Thx, Mark, for starting ball rolling. Check with me before cob today on our final choice; and then ask OPA to prepare final document for sending to HQ tomorrow.

Karl Brooks

Regional Administrator

EPA Region 7

913-551-7006

From: Reynolds, Thomas

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 10:06 AM

To: Assistant Administrators; Regional Administrators; Associate Administrators

Cc: PADs and Alternates; KeyesFleming, Gwen; Fritz, Matthew; Bloomgren, David; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria

Subject: Request for info - successes in first 100 days

We are quickly coming up on the 100 day mark for Administrator McCarthy's term and we are working to capture some of the successes we've seen in that time. It is the Oct 27th or 28th depending on your count.

We've started a running list here OPA, based on our own thoughts, but wanted to hear directly from the AAs and RAs about what they have seen in their own programs and regions.

As we work to highlight some of the accomplishments, I'd ask you to send to me, David Bloomgren and Vicki Rivas-Vasquez 2-3 highlights from your own area of the sand box.

These should be short, 3-4 lines, similar in fashion to the weekly updates send to the Administrator. It would be helpful to point out any tangible benefits, or projected benefits. I would not focus on distribution of grant money, but rather want those grants will lead to. Any

particular clean-up process we have made on particular sites. New research that's started, or progress we have made on existing efforts.

There is a wide berth here, but the goal should be tangible, quantifiable (or eventually tangible and quantifiable) progress. I 'd avoid including is scheduling meetings, hosting round tables, etc.

I think there is clearly plenty of material to point to, and your personal input will help in this effort tremendously. Ultimately, this material will be used for internal comms pieces, for the Admin and Deputy Admin speeches, and social and media amplification.

Now the hard part: ideally, it would be useful to capture this material by COB on Thursday, Oct 24. I know that is a very short turnaround, but we aren't asking for much, so hopefully the lift won't be too heavy.

Many thanks in advance for your help, please let me know if you have any questions, and happy to discuss further at senior policy this afternoon.

Best,

Tom Reynolds

EPA Associate Administrator for External Affairs

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